

MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

Success Stories from the Field

Anexys Inc.

Utah Manufacturing Extension Partnership

Anexys Tames the ISO Monster with Help from MEP Utah

Client Profile:

Anexys, Inc. has been serving the electronics industry since 1984. They have three divisions: Cable Assembly, Electronics Distribution, and Plastics and Tooling. Anexys offers complete injection molding capabilities and is capable of producing custom molds to fit both functionality and style. The company employs 122 people at its facility in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Situation:

One of Anexys' suppliers, Paramount Machine, told Anexys about the help they had received in becoming ISO 9001:2000 certified and additional gains they obtained by implementing Lean manufacturing through the consulting services provided by the Utah Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP Utah), a NIST MEP network affiliate. Anexys' President, Dave Hust, contacted the MEP Utah for help in the implementation and preparation for registration to the ISO 9001:2000 standard.

Solution:

MEP Utah's Quality Engineer, Mike Talbot, created a system specifically for Anexys that met the criteria set forth by the ISO standard. Anexys achieved their registration six months after the initial audit. In addition to ISO Quality Registration, Anexys personnel were interested in implementing Lean improvements and MEP Utah Lean provided the introduction to Lean techniques. With a basic understanding of the Lean capabilities, Anexys expanded its work with MEP Utah with training courses in Value Stream Mapping, Setup Reduction, Cellular flow, and Visual Workplace. By applying these Lean techniques, Anexys was able to improve dramatically. For example, one product line used to take 15 days to complete the assembly of 300 cable systems; however, after applying lean principles, Anexys was able to complete the same 300 cable systems in just 3 days. Anexys President commented, "The MEP's hands-on approach gave us a deeper understanding of lean principles and helped us integrate these into our company as a way of life."

Results:

- * Achieved ISO 9001:2000 registration.
- * Realized \$50,000 in cost savings.
- * Increased productivity by 20 percent.
- * Reduced work in process by 60 percent.
- * Achieved a more competitive and profitable position.
- * Reduced lead time by 85 percent, from weeks to 24 hours.
- * Reduced cost of in-plant inventory by 35 percent.
- * Saved floor space by 50 percent.

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Testimonial:

"I cannot emphasize enough how enjoyable it has been to work with all of the people at MEP Utah. We have been so impressed with the results of our past training that we have now signed up for marketing consultation and training through MEP Utah."

Dave Hust, President